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INFORMA~~SECRET~~REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY Germany (Russian Zone)

DATE DISTR. 7 Feb 1949

SUBJECT Indoctrination of Police in  
Soviet Sector of Berlin  
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1. In an informal discussion, the informant, whose duties include the ideological and military-technical training of Soviet Sector police officers, expressed his conviction that in the foreseeable future the western sectors of Berlin will come under the influence of the German Economic Commission or of the staff now constituting that agency. The informant based this conclusion on the instructions which he receives in connection with his work of training the "activist" elements in the Markgraf police. This training includes weapons training for street fighting, with emphasis on local conditions in Greater Berlin, and political and ideological indoctrination and training.
2. According to the official instructions, ideological indoctrination should include discussion of the following two possibilities regarding the future of Berlin:
  - a. At a given time the Soviet occupation power will transfer all authority in the Soviet Zone and Greater Berlin to a government formed primarily on the basis of what is now known as the German Economic Commission. At the same time the bulk of the Soviet armed forces now in Germany will retire, leaving only a few key locations occupied. Subsequently, the Western Allies will be prevailed upon to take similar measures at least in Berlin and possibly in Western Germany. It will then become the task of the Berlin police forces to insure that the western sectors recognize the political authority of the Soviet Zone government.

If the above described possibility cannot be realized, it is still expected that under clandestine SED leadership, riots and disorders will be organized in the western sectors of Berlin. The disorders will be organized on a large enough scale to justify the "legal" Police President Markgraf's ordering reliable Soviet Sector police into the western sectors to restore order. It is hoped that the outcome will be a "fait accompli" which will eventually lead to the incorporation of the western sectors into the Soviet Zone. To carry out this plan, the Soviet Sector police force is being systematically reinforced by reliable and loyal Soviet Zone policemen, and several closed formations of Soviet Zone police are being deployed around the west sector boundaries.

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Comment: It is believed that the substance of the report is an accurate reflection of the current Communist propaganda line being given to the police. It is to be noted that possibility "a" mentioned in the report closely resembles developments in Korea. The Korean action is often referred to in the Soviet-licensed German press as an example to be followed. Knowing that the Western Powers would not sponsor or tolerate aggression against the Soviet Zone, the Russians could well afford to implement the declaration of the Warsaw Foreign Ministers' Conference by withdrawing their troops. Such a withdrawal would undoubtedly have great propaganda effect and, despite the objections of more sophisticated observers, would cause demands for similar withdrawals on the part of the Western Powers.

It should be borne in mind that since the spring of 1948 the SED party leadership has consistently propagandized the party membership with over-optimistic predictions of imminent capitulation of the Western Allies.)

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